



Attorney Docket No. 03649/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Makoto HORIUCHI et al
Serial No. : 10/697,178
Filed : October 29, 2003
For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD
AND PROGRAM
Art Unit : 2851
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are

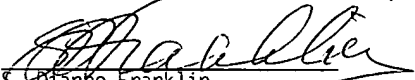
1. Japanese Publication No. 62-249138 (which corresponds to Japanese TOKAI No. 249138/1987 identified at page 3, line 12 of the present specification);
2. A commercially available English language Abstract of Japanese 62-249138; and
3. Form PTO/SB/08A.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the document listed therein has been considered and made of record.

It is respectfully submitted that the discussion of Japanese 62-249138 in the introductory portion of the present specification (see page 3, et seq. of the specification) and the English language Abstract thereof constitute an explanation of relevance.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

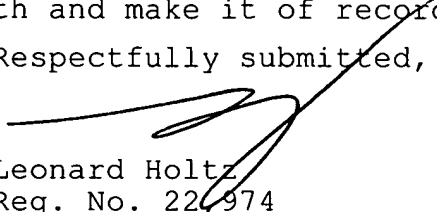

S. Blanche Franklin

Dated: March 11, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the document submitted herewith and make it of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: March 11, 2004

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
767 THIRD AVENUE - 25TH FLOOR
New York, New York 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
FAX No. (212) 319-5101
LH/sdf
f:\users\dianne\03\03649.ids

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			Application Number		10/697,178	
			Filing Date		October 29, 2003	
			First Named Inventor		Makoto HORIUCHI et al	
			Group Art Unit		2851	
			Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		03649/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	62-249138		MINOLTA CAMERA CO. LTD.	10-30-1987		*
			*English language Abstract only.					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: March 11, 2004